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THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The Government have done everything to relieve the distress among the assessees. In fact the sales tax accrued up to 1952–53 has been ordered to be collected in 72 instalments. Then the sales tax for 1957–58 relating to the North Arcot district, has been allowed to be collected in 12 equal monthly instalments. Therefore, I do not think that it is possible to extend the concession any further.

Sugar

* 356 *Q.*—SRI A. A. RASHEED : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state the total quantity of sugar received for distribution during Deepavali?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Two thousand seven hundred and fifty tons of sugar were received for distribution during Deepavali.

SRI A. A. RASHEED : In view of the inferior quality of sugar sold during Deepavali and thereafter, is there any proposal to reduce the price of sugar?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : There is no such proposal.

Taxi drivers

* 358 *Q.*—SRI A. A. RASHEED : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state whether the Government have received any complaints recently from taxi drives regarding the " harassment " by the police?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : No, Sir.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM : Is the Hon. Minister at least aware of the fact that taxi drivers are always complaining that there is some sort of misunderstanding between the Police and their organization with the result that the police are tempted to launch cases against them without any basis?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I think the hon. Member must also be aware of the fact that some of the taxi drivers try to cause harassment to the police.

SRI A. A. RASHEED : Is it not a fact that taxi drivers are making flippant charges now and then against the police? If so, what steps have the Government taken to put down such flippant charges being made?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Whenever complaints are made, they are gone into on merits.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM : Will the Government think of the possibility of effecting reapproachment between the police force and the taxi drivers by convening a small conference in which both would be represented and thus try to avoid the harassment caused to the police by taxi drivers and vice-versa?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I may tell the hon. Member that the relation between the police force and the taxi drivers is fairly cordial.